

REMARKS

The Office Action of December 18, 2008, has been carefully studied. Claims 1 and 6 currently appear in this application. These claims define novel and unobvious subject matter under Sections 102 and 103 of 35 U.S.C., and therefore should be allowed. Applicant respectfully requests favorable reconsideration, entry of the present amendment, and formal allowance of the claims.

Allowable Subject Matter

It is noted with appreciation that claim 1 appears to be allowable over the prior art of record. Claim 6 is merely objected to, but would be allowable over the art of record.

Claim Objections

Claim 6 is objected to because of the recitation of, "an isolated polypeptide having a thermostable ribonuclease H activity obtained by culturing a stransformant into which a plasmid

pApr108 harbored by *Escherichia coli* HMS174/pApr108...
is transferred."

Claim 6 has been amended in accordance with
the Examiner's helpful suggestion. Accordingly, it
is respectfully submitted that claim 6 is now
allowable.

Rejections under 35 U.S.C. 112

Claims 7 and 9 are rejected under 35 U.S.C.
112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for
failing to particularly point out and distinctly
claim the subject matter which Applicant regards as
the invention.

The present amendment cancels claims 7 and
9, so this rejection is now moot.

Claims 8 and 9 are rejected under 35 U.S.C.
112, first paragraph, as failing to comply with the
written description requirement and for failing to
comply with the written description requirement.

As the present amendment cancels claims 8
and 9, these rejections are now moot.

Art Rejections


Claim 9 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Klenk et al., PIR accession number E69327, 1997.

The present amendment cancels claim 9, so this rejection is now moot.

In view of the above, it is respectfully submitted that the claims are now in condition for allowance, and favorable action thereon is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

BROWDY AND NEIMARK, P.L.L.C.
Attorneys for Applicant

By: 

Anne M. Kornbau
Registration No. 25,884

AMK:srd
Telephone No.: (202) 628-5197
Facsimile No.: (202) 737-3528
G:\BN\A\Aoyb\Hokazono1\pto\2009-03-17Amendment.doc